

Background Information

- **Location of Root River Tract**
- **History**
- **Existing habitat and wildlife use**
- **Key features and their condition**
- **Wildlife-dependent recreation**
- **Project goals**

Presented by Jim Nissen
Photography by Ruth Nissen

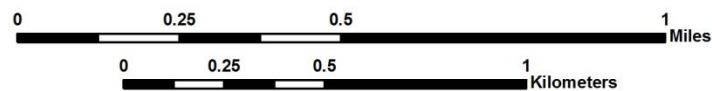
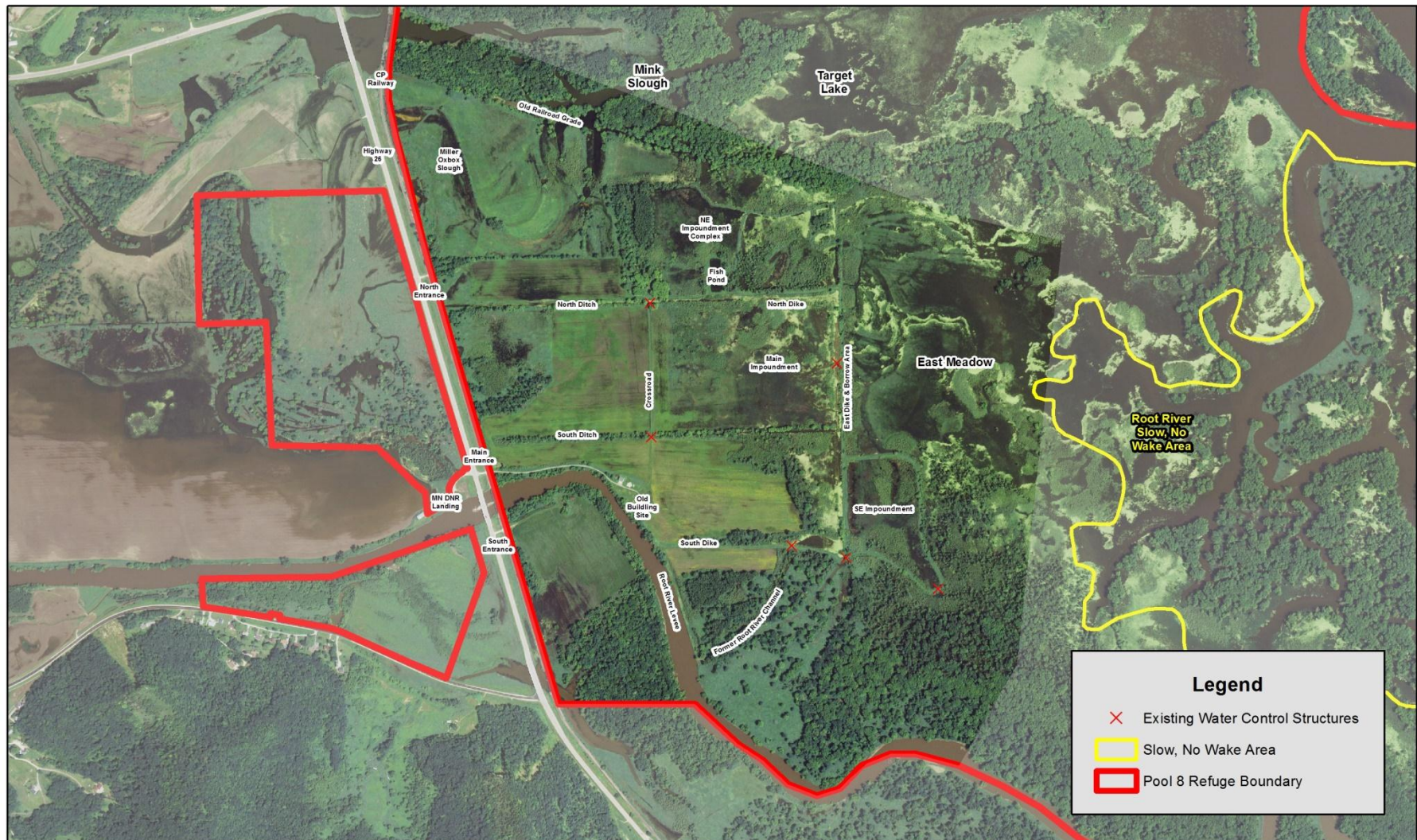


U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Root River Tract with Names and Features

Upper Mississippi River National Wildlife & Fish Refuge

Pool 8



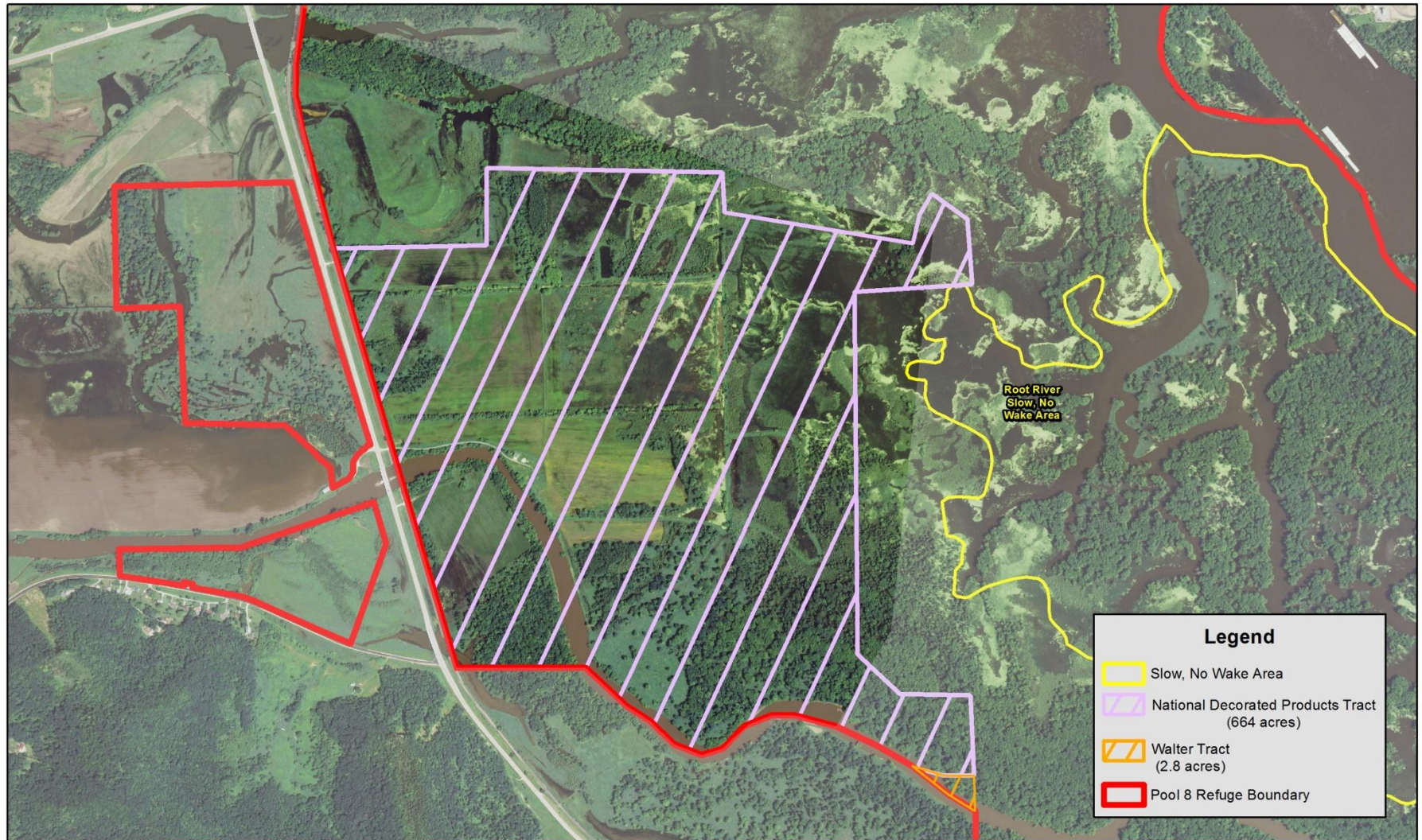


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Root River Tract with National Decorated Products Acquisition

Upper Mississippi River National Wildlife & Fish Refuge

Pool 8



Map Created 6/24/15
Project Saved as D:\gisdata\pool8\
root_river_with_ndptract_acquisition
Base Map is 2013 Aerial Photography



**LICENSED
SHOOTING
PRESERVE**

**NO
TRESPASSING**

Northern Development Co. LLC







OVERSIZE LOAD



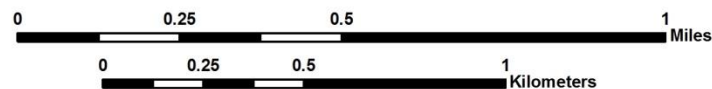
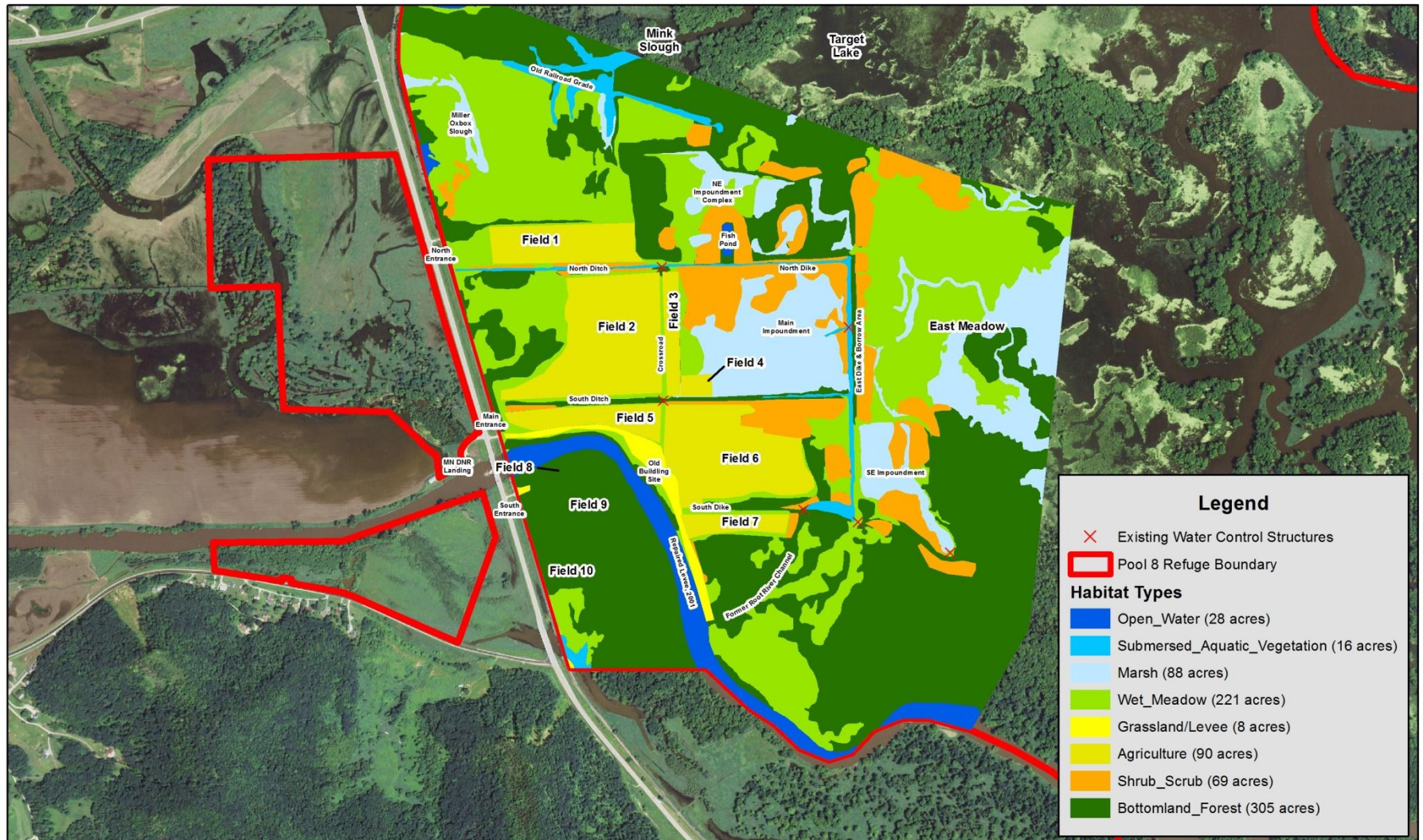




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Root River Tract Existing Habitat Types

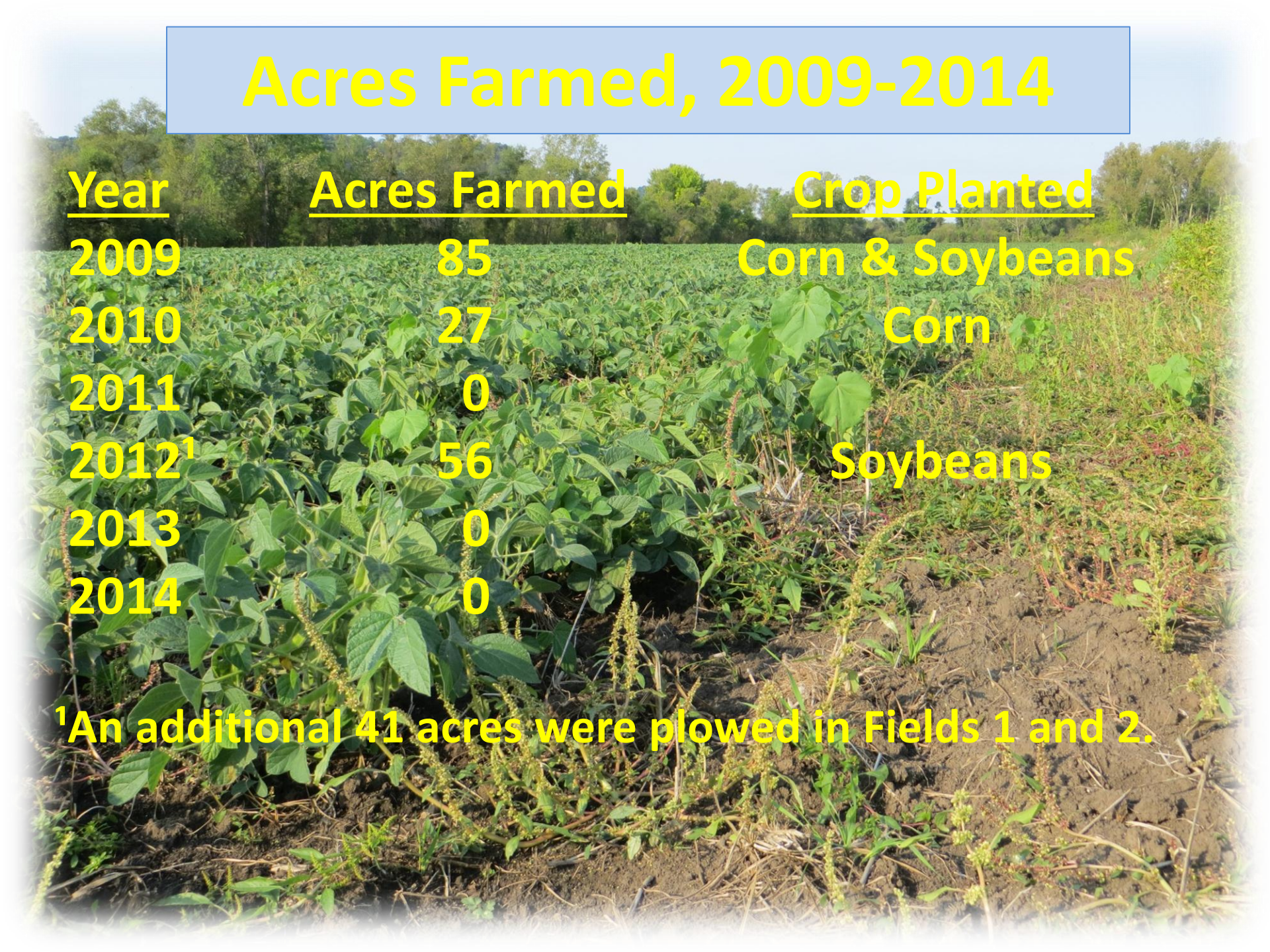
Upper Mississippi River National Wildlife & Fish Refuge Pool 8







Acres Farmed, 2009-2014



<u>Year</u>	<u>Acres Farmed</u>	<u>Crop Planted</u>
2009	85	Corn & Soybeans
2010	27	Corn
2011	0	
2012 ¹	56	Soybeans
2013	0	
2014	0	

¹An additional 41 acres were plowed in Fields 1 and 2.



September 2010



Acres Hayed, 2009-2014

<u>Year</u>	<u>Acres Hayed</u>
2009	216
2010	0
2011	49
2012	96
2013	73
2014	22



Key Features and Their Condition

Old Railroad Grade





Partial breach at Mink Slough



Existing breach in Old Railroad Grade





Low section of North Dike



Root River Levee



December 2001



April 2015



Root River Levee, April 2013

Visitation Estimates for Wildlife-Dependent Recreation, FY2009-FY2014¹

Activity	FY09	FY10	FY11	FY12	FY13	FY14
Hunting	35	685	520	370	360	370
Fishing	250	250	250	250	250	250
Wildlife Obs.	500	1,825	2,190	2,255	3,650	1,825
Photography	50	185	220	225	365	185
Interpretation	50	185	220	225	365	185
Environmental Ed. ²	nr	nr	nr	nr	nr	nr
Total Visits	885	3,130	3,400	3,325	4,990	2,815

¹Fiscal year is October 1 through September 30.

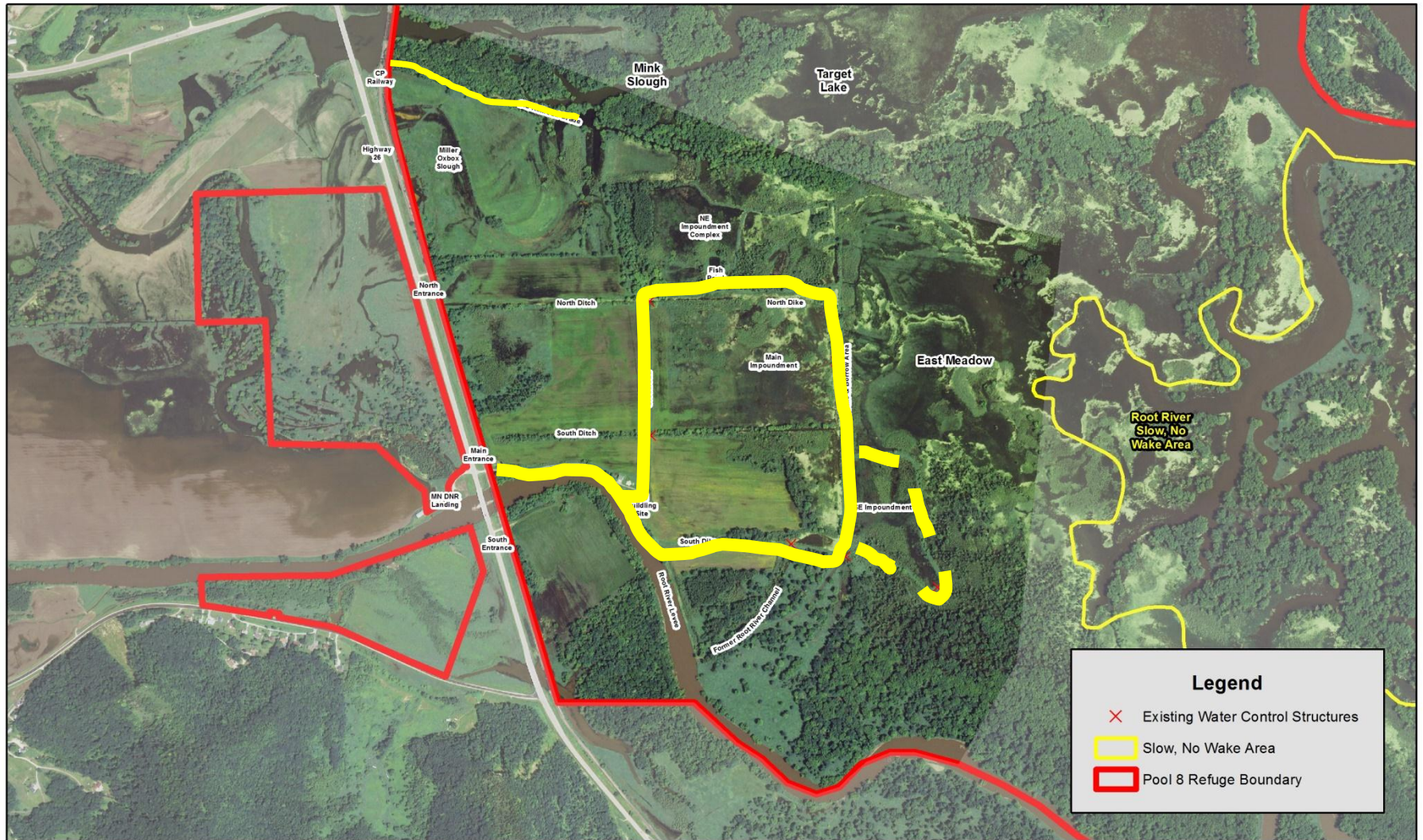
²None recorded.



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Root River Tract with Names and Features

Upper Mississippi River National Wildlife & Fish Refuge Pool 8



Legend

- Existing Water Control Structures
- Slow, No Wake Area
- Pool 8 Refuge Boundary



Estimate of Hunting Visits, FY2009-FY2014¹

Activity	FY09	FY10	FY11	FY12	FY13	FY14
Waterfowl Hunting	0	50	200	50	50	50
Other Mig. Bird Hunting	5	25	25	25	25	25
Upland Game Hunting	0	25	25	25	25	25
Big Game Hunting	30	585	270	270	260	270
Total Hunting Visits	35	685	520	370	360	370
Furbearer Trapping	50	50	50	50	50	100

¹Fiscal year is October 1 through September 30.



Waterfowl hunters in Field 3, October 2010



October 2010

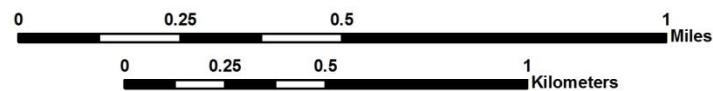
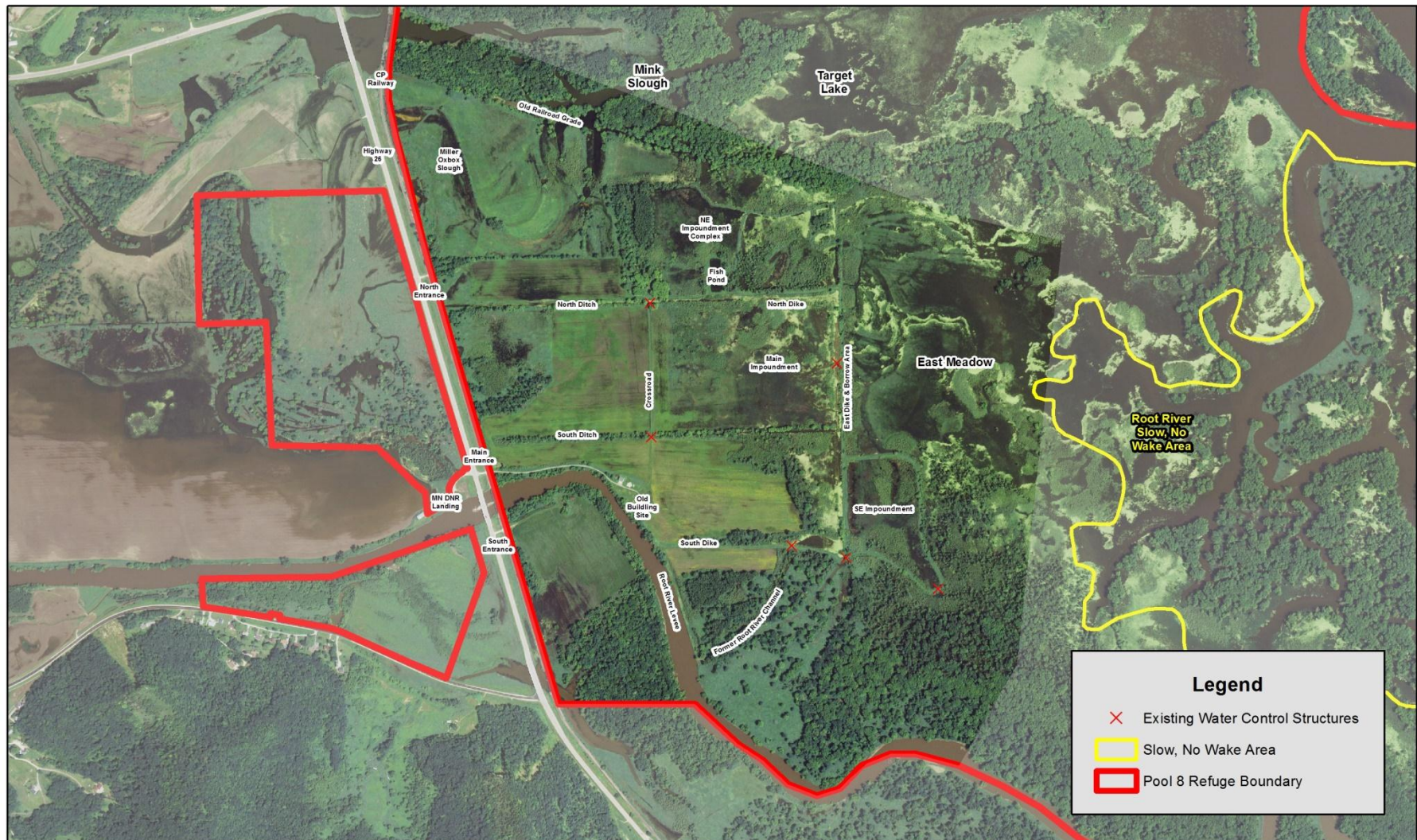


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Root River Tract with Names and Features

Upper Mississippi River National Wildlife & Fish Refuge

Pool 8



Planning

August 2009

January 2015





Project Goals:

Goal 1 – Restore natural topography and drainage patterns

Goal 2 – Wildlife and habitat

Goal 3 – Wildlife-dependent recreation